

REPORT FROM TEMPO THE ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security
The Honorable Tommy Williams, Chairman

Austin, Texas
October 13, 2010



TEMPO Membership

- MPO Directors and Staff from the 25 Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations
(MPO Director Roster provided)

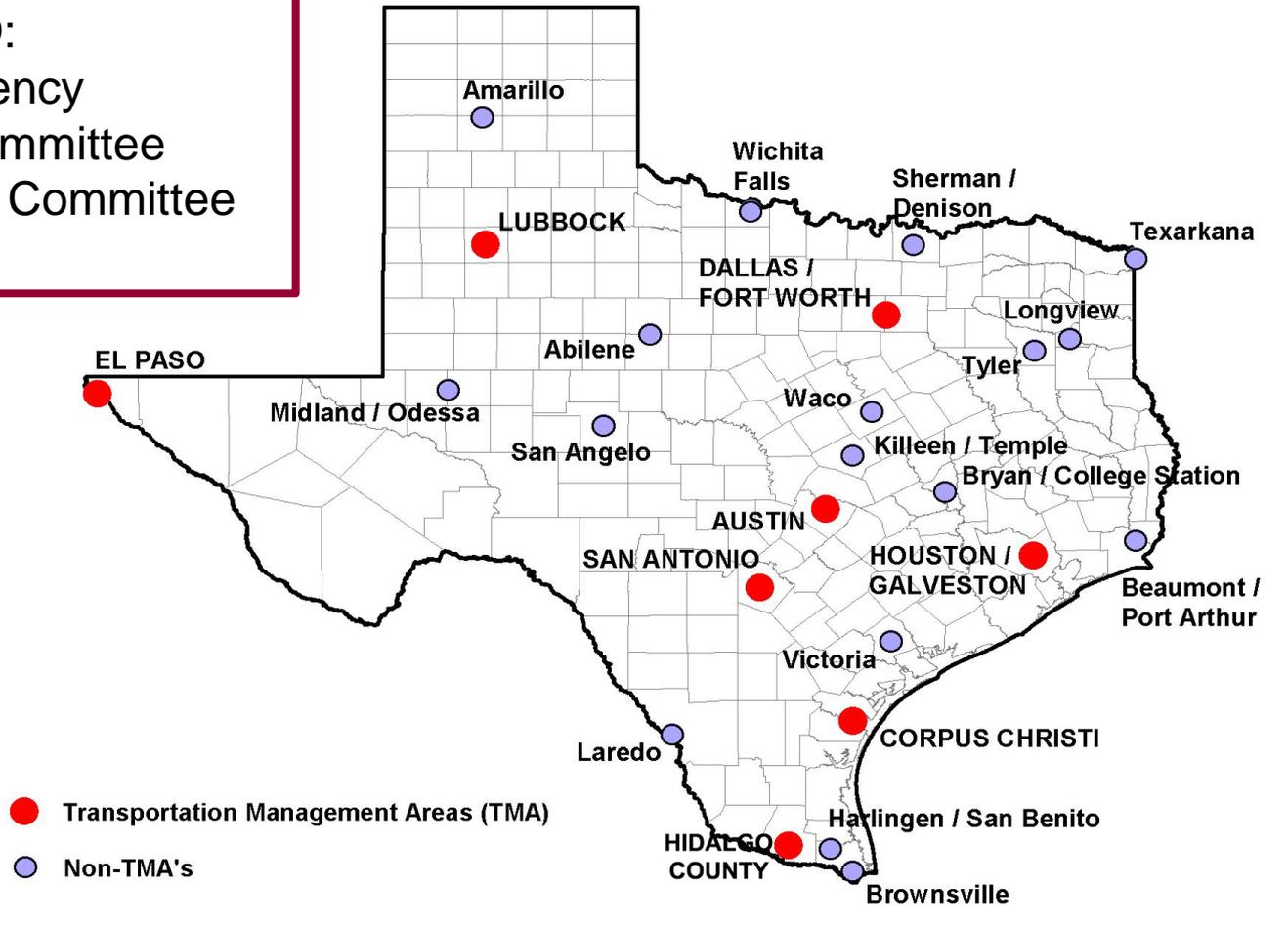
TEMPO Associate Members:

- Texas Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Within Each MPO:

- Designated Agency
- MPO Policy Committee
- MPO Technical Committee
- Fiscal Agent



- Transportation Management Areas (TMA)
- Non-TMA's

TEMPO Executive Committee

Dan Kessler, Executive Director – TEMPO,
Assistant Director - Transportation, Dallas-Fort Worth MPO

Ashby Johnson, Deputy Executive Director – TEMPO,
Deputy Director - Transportation, Houston-Galveston MPO

Robert Allen, At-Large Non-TMA Director, Director, Abilene MPO

Chris Evilia, At-Large Non-TMA Director, Director, Waco MPO

Roy Gilyard, At-Large TMA Director, Director, El Paso MPO

Tom Niskala, At-Large TMA Director, Director, Corpus Christi MPO

E’Lisa Smetana, At-Large Non-TMA Director, Director, San Angelo MPO

What is TEMPO?

The Association of Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations (TEMPO) was established in 1993 to:

- Provide a conduit for exchange of information and ideas,
- Coordinate participation in state and federal policy development,
- Promote professional development and continuing education,
- Promote and develop better transportation planning in the State of Texas, and
- Enhance working partnerships and a collaborative relationship with the Texas Department of Transportation, and the various agencies within the U.S. Department of Transportation

TEMPO/TxDOT/FHWA/FTA

Ongoing Discussion Topics

- Public Participation
- Sustainability/Livability
- Context Sensitive Design
- Safety
- Freight Planning
- Monitoring Federal/State Legislation
- Fiscal Programming
- Demographic Forecasting
- Travel Modeling
- Financial Forecasting
- Geographic Information Systems
- Data Integration and Management
- Environmental Streamlining

TEMPO/TxDOT Communication

- TEMPO Quarterly Meetings – Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio
- Ongoing Committees and Work Groups
- TEMPO Executive Committee, TMA Directors, and TxDOT Administration Coordination Meetings
- TxDOT/MPO Critical Initiatives Meetings and Conference Calls
- TEMPO Website - www.texasmpo.org

TEMPO/TxDOT Collaboration

- Financial Forecasting Work Group
(TRENDS Financial Model Deployment)
- Transportation Improvement Program/State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP/STIP) Work Group
- TxDOT/MPO Stakeholder Committee on Rescissions
- TxDOT Freight Resiliency Project Committee
- Economic Stimulus (ARRA) Project Selection/Implementation
- TxDOT Metropolitan Planning Rules (Implementation)
- TxDOT Regions/MPO Standard Operating Procedures (Implementation)

TEMPO/TxDOT Areas for Improvement

- Greater focus on proactive versus reactive approach.
- Additional coordination of statewide and metropolitan planning activities, technical data collection, and information sharing.
- Integration of Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Plans.
- Expanded emphasis on multi-region planning and coordination.
- Continued commitment to partnership communication.

MPO/TxDOT Areas for Improvement

1. Centralized decision-making when regional is appropriate
 - Intelligent Transportation Systems management
 - Bypassing MTP and conformity staging when advancing projects
 - Financial commitments eroding
 - Proposition 12 process and outcome
 - Focus on individual projects, rather than a system

MPO/TxDOT Areas of Improvement

(cont.)

2. Greater focus needed on streamlining processes (TxDOT can build a project in a shorter amount of time than it takes to get environmental clearance)

- RTC revenues for more staff – not supported
- Sense of rivalry with other agencies can slow process
- Long timeline to complete agreements – now improving
- Role of public involvement

3. Lack of horizontal financial information system

- Texas Mobility funds
- Category 2 funds
- CMAQ and STP(MM) funds

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

MPO Director Roster

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Metropolitan Area: | Abilene |
| MPO Name: | Abilene MPO |
| Designated MPO: | Abilene MPO Policy Committee |
| Director, phone #: | Robert Allen, 325-676-6243 |
| Policy Board: | Policy Committee |
| Fiscal Agent: | City of Abilene |
| | |
| Metropolitan Area: | Amarillo |
| MPO Name: | Amarillo MPO |
| Designated MPO: | City of Amarillo |
| Director, phone #: | Gary Holwick, 806-378-4219 |
| Policy Board: | Amarillo MPO Policy Advisory Committee |
| Technical Committee: | Amarillo MPO Technical Committee |
| Fiscal Agent: | City of Amarillo |
| | |
| Metropolitan Area: | Austin |
| MPO Name: | Capital Area MPO (CAMPO) |
| Designated MPO: | CAMPO Policy Committee |
| Director, phone #: | Maureen McCoy Daniel (Interim), 512-974-6441 |
| Policy Board: | Transportation Policy Board |
| Technical Committee: | Technical Advisory Committee |
| Fiscal Agent: | City of Austin |

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **Beaumont**
MPO Name: South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
Designated MPO: South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (COG)
Director, phone #: Bob Dickinson, 409-899-8444
Policy Board: Jefferson-Orange Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) T Committee
Technical Committee: JOHRTS Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: South East Texas Regional Planning Commission

Metropolitan Area: **Brownsville**
MPO Name: Brownsville MPO
Designated MPO: City of Brownsville
Director, phone #: Mark Lund, 956-548-6150
Policy Board: Brownsville MPO Policy Committee
Technical Committee: Brownsville MPO Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Brownsville

Metropolitan Area: **Bryan/College Station**
MPO Name: Bryan/College Station MPO
Designated MPO: Bryan/College Station MPO Policy Committee
Director, phone #: Linda LaSut, 979-260-5298
Policy Board: Policy Committee
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: Brazos County

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **Corpus Christi**
MPO Name: Corpus Christi MPO
Designated MPO: Corpus Christi MPO Transportation Policy Committee
Director, phone #: Tom Niskala, 361-884-0687
Policy Board: Transportation Policy Committee
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: Nueces County

Metropolitan Area: **Dallas/Fort Worth**
MPO Name: North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)
Designated MPO: North Central Texas Council of Governments (COG)
Director, phone #: Michael Morris, P.E., 817-695-9241
Policy Board: Regional Transportation Council
Technical Committee: Surface Transportation Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: North Central Texas Council of Governments

Metropolitan Area: **El Paso**
MPO Name: El Paso MPO
Designated MPO: El Paso MPO Policy Board
Director, phone #: Roy Gilyard, 915-591-9735
Policy Board: Transportation Policy Board
Technical Committee: Transportation Project Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of El Paso

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **Harlingen**
MPO Name: Harlingen-San Benito MPO
Designated MPO: H-SB MPO Policy Committee
Director, phone #: Rebecca Castillo, 956-216-5242
Policy Board: H-SB MPO Policy Committee
Technical Committee: H-SB Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Harlingen

Metropolitan Area: **Hidalgo County**
MPO Name: Hidalgo County MPO
Designated MPO: HCMPO Policy Committee
Director, phone #: Andrew Canon, 956-618-0803
Policy Board: HCMPO Policy Committee
Fiscal Agent: Hidalgo County Council of Governments

Metropolitan Area: **Houston-Galveston**
MPO Name: Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)
Designated MPO: Houston-Galveston Area Council (COG)
Director, phone #: Alan Clark, 713-627-3200
Policy Board: Transportation Policy Council
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: Houston-Galveston Area Council

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **Killeen/Temple**
MPO Name: Killeen-Temple MPO
Designated MPO: Killeen-Temple MPO Policy Board
Director, phone #: Annette Sheperd, 254-933-7075
Policy Board: Killeen-Temple MPO Policy Board
Technical Committee: Killeen-Temple MPO Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)

Metropolitan Area: **Laredo**
MPO Name: Laredo Urban Transportation Study
Designated MPO: City of Laredo
Director, phone #: Keith Selman, 956-794-1600
Policy Board: MPO Policy Committee
Technical Committee: MPO Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Laredo

Metropolitan Area: **Longview**
MPO Name: Longview Metropolitan Planning Organization
Designated MPO: City of Longview
Director, phone #: Karen Owen, 903-237-1062
Policy Board: Longview MPO Policy Board
Technical Committee: Longview MPO Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Longview

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **Lubbock**
MPO Name: Lubbock MPO
Designated MPO: Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee
Director, phone #: David Jones, 806-775-1671
Policy Board: Transportation Policy Committee
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Lubbock

Metropolitan Area: **Midland-Odessa**
MPO Name: Midland-Odessa Transportation Organization (MOTOR)
Designated MPO: Midland-Odessa Transportation Organization Policy Board
Director, phone #: Melba Owens, 432-617-0129, ext. 1004
Policy Board: MOTOR Policy Board
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Odessa

Metropolitan Area: **San Angelo**
MPO Name: San Angelo MPO
Designated MPO: City of San Angelo
Director, phone #: E'Lisa Smetana, 325-657-4210
Policy Board: MPO Policy Board
Fiscal Agent: City of San Angelo

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **San Antonio**
MPO Name: San Antonio-Bexar County MPO
Designated MPO: San Antonio-Bexar County MPO Policy Board
Director, phone #: Sid Martinez, 210-227-8651
Policy Board: Transportation Policy Board
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: Bexar County

Metropolitan Area: **Sherman-Denison**
MPO Name: Sherman-Denison Transportation Policy Board
Designated MPO: Texoma Council of Governments (COG)
Director, phone #: Bob Wood, 903-813-3534
Policy Board: Sherman-Denison Transportation Policy Board
Technical Committee: As needed; current: Bylaws, FM 691 Corridor Study, State and Fiscal Agent
Fiscal Agent: Texoma Council of Governments Contracts

Metropolitan Area: **Texarkana**
MPO Name: Texarkana MPO
Designated MPO: Texarkana Urban Transportation Study dba Texarkana MPO Policy Committee
Director, phone #: Brad McCaleb, 903-798-3927
Policy Board: Texarkana MPO Policy Committee
Technical Committee: Texarkana MPO Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Texarkana

Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Area: **Tyler**
MPO Name: City of Tyler
Designated MPO: City of Tyler
Director, phone #: Barbara Holly, 903-531-1175
Policy Board: MPO Policy Board
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Tyler

Metropolitan Area: **Victoria**
MPO Name: Victoria County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Designated MPO: City of Victoria
Director, phone #: Ray Miller, 361-485-3360
Policy Board: Policy Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Victoria

Metropolitan Area: **Waco**
MPO Name: Waco MPO
Designated MPO: City of Waco
Director, phone #: Christopher Evilia, 254-750-5650
Policy Board: Waco MPO Policy Board
Technical Committee: Waco MPO Technical Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Waco

Metropolitan Area: **Wichita Falls**
MPO Name: Wichita Falls MPO
Designated MPO: Wichita Falls MPO - Transportation Policy Committee
Director, phone #: Lin Barnett, 940-761-7450
Policy Board: Transportation Policy Committee
Technical Committee: Technical Advisory Committee
Fiscal Agent: City of Wichita Falls